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Intersections

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{Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences}

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Fragment Mouth: Performance documentation

Dominic Thorpe

Supervised by: Brian Connolly & Dr. Chérie Driver



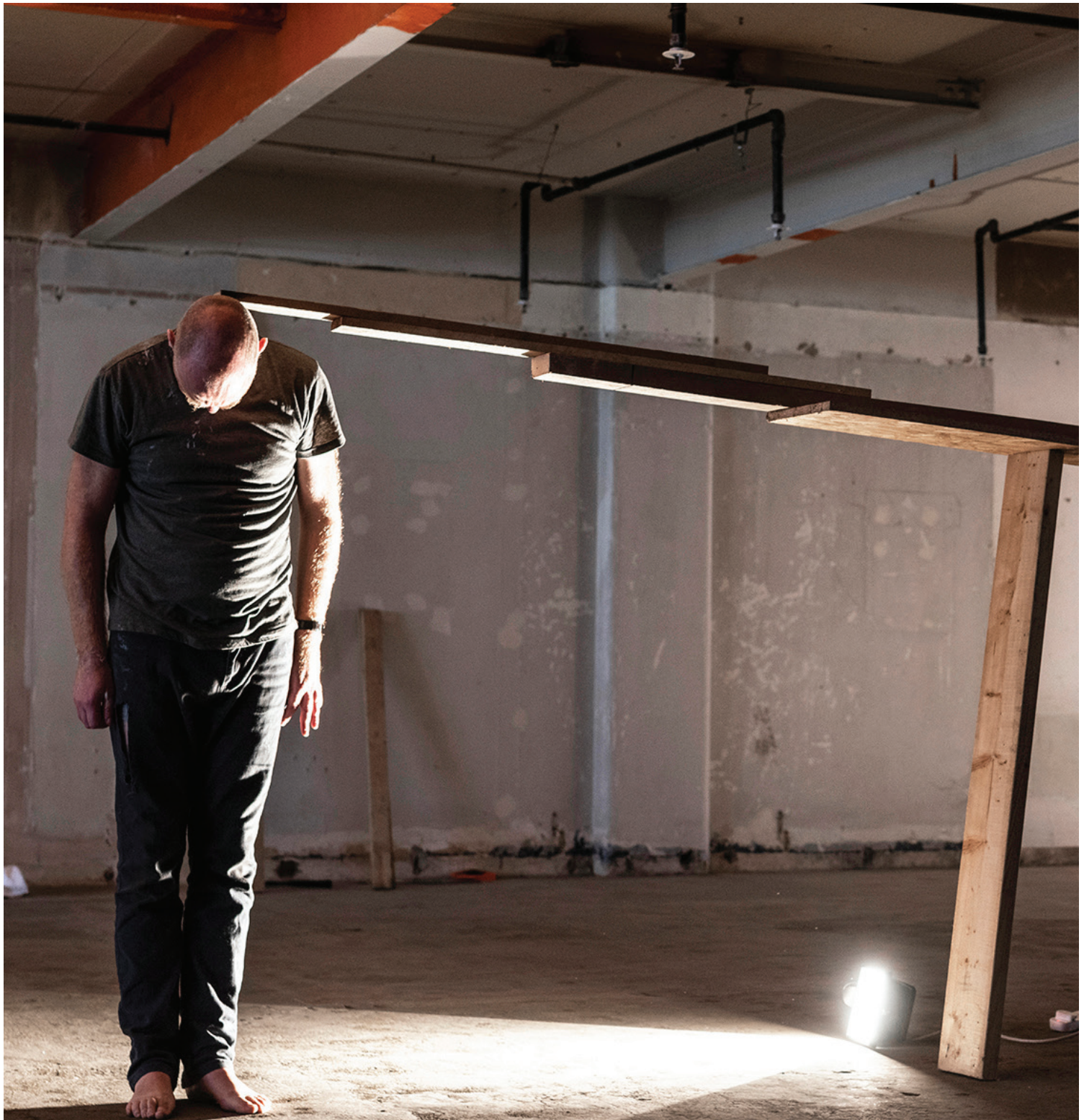
*Fragment Mouth,
performance by Dominic
Thorpe, Michaela Stock
Gallery, Vienna 2019. Images
by Lea Sonderegger.*

This selection of photographic documentation comes from a series of live performance art works being developed as a key component to my PhD research, investigating representations of perpetrators in performance art from Ireland. The performance works are created through a range of methods common to the practices of performance art, including durational, contextual, improvisational and material processes.

The images are presented here as extracts and not intended to offer a full account of live work; rather to signal certain embodied and representational qualities inherent in performance art actions addressing atrocity and resulting traumas, including perpetrator trauma. Centralising the artists body and presence, the research examines the artist's own position in relation to perpetration -

particularly when proposing perpetration as a broad spectrum of actions and proximities in relation to violence, conflict and abuse; for example, direct and indirect perpetration, silence as a form of complicity and identity as a form of implication.

A central tenet of the burgeoning field of perpetrator studies is a recognition of the necessity to acknowledge experiences and identities of perpetrators, as well as victims, to better understand and respond to violence, conflict and abuse. This practice based research aims to identify how performance art can contribute to sustainable responses to atrocity, and in so doing also speaks to wider research across a range of relevant areas, including memory, violence, ethics, and trauma.





*Ingress, performance by
Dominic Thorpe, Fix, Belfast
2019. Images by Anonymous.*



*Table Bite, performance by
Dominic Thorpe, Michaela
Stock Gallery, Vienna 2019.
Images by Lea Sonderegger.*



*Glass Mouth, performance
by Dominic Thorpe, Wake
Festival of Performance Art,
Folkestone, 2017. Images by
Andrea Abbatangelo.*